

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims supersedes all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-3. Cancelled

4. (Currently Amended) A fuel storage device ~~having~~ comprising:
a tank for storing fuel, ~~comprising~~ and including heat storage means having heat storage material ~~[[and]]~~ for exchanging heat with stored fuel stored in the tank,
wherein the heat storage means comprise:
 buoyancy generating means for generating buoyancy in the stored
fuel; and
 a plurality of containers containing heat storage material and
arranged on a liquid fuel surface of the stored fuel.

5. (Currently Amended) A fuel storage device according to claim 4, wherein the heat storage means ~~[[have]]~~ containers each ~~of which has~~ have the heat storage material

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sealed therein and ~~in each of which~~ an empty portion having no heat storage material
[[is]] provided as the buoyancy generating means.

6. (Original) A fuel storage device according to claim 5, wherein the containers have diameters larger than a diameter of an inlet port of a fuel pump sucking the stored fuel from the tank.

7. Cancelled

8. (Currently Amended) A fuel storage device according to claim [[7]] 4, wherein the heat storage material contains any one of calcium chloride 6-salt, octadecane, and cyclohexanol.

9. Cancelled

10. (New) A fuel storage device according to claim 4, wherein the container has a spherical shape.

11. (New) A fuel storage device according to claim 4, further comprising flexible linkage disposed between at least some of said containers organizing them into a regularized arrangement on the liquid fuel surface.

12. (New) A method for reducing evaporation of fuel in a fuel tank, said method comprising:

arranging buoyant containers partially filled with heat storage material on top of a liquid fuel surface in a fuel tank.

13. (New) A method according to claim 12, wherein the containers have diameters larger than a diameter of an inlet port of a fuel pump arranged to pump stored fuel from the tank.

14. (New) A method according to claim 12, wherein the heat storage material contains any one of calcium chloride 6-salt octadecane, and cyclohexanol.

15. (New) A method according to claim 12, wherein the containers each have a spherical shape.

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16. (New) A method according to claim 12, further comprising:

arranging the containers into a regularized floating arrangement on the liquid fuel surface, using flexible linkage connected between at least some of the containers.